



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE SPECIAL AGENTS ARREST 6 AGGRAVATED FELONS *Criminal aliens convicted on drug and family violence charges subject to deportation*

MIDLAND, Texas — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents this week arrested six permanent resident aliens here who are now deportable because of their aggravated felony convictions.

The arrests, part of Operation Community Guardian, occurred throughout a 13-county area here. All those arrested were on community supervision because of their criminal convictions.

“These criminal aliens pose a threat to our public safety, and are a draw on the resources of our community,” said Jesus Torres, who heads the El Paso ICE Office of Investigations. “The removal of these felons, who have violated our laws and trust, is a top priority for ICE.”

All those arrested were Mexican nationals. Following are their prior criminal convictions:

1. Jesus Alberto Ortiz-Romero, 21, of Monahans, Texas, aggravated possession of a controlled substance
2. Alfredo Cortez-Granado, 24, of Fort Stockton, Texas, delivery of a controlled substance
3. Luciano De Leon-Gomez, 56, of Iraan, Texas, assault-family violence-Class A
4. Jose Maria Armendariz-Lujan, 51, Andrews, Texas, aggravated possession of a controlled substance
5. Griselda Martinez-Ibarra, 34, of Fort Stockton, Texas, delivery of a controlled substance in a drug-free zone
6. Jesus Noe Escontrias, 27, possessing a controlled substance

These individuals were arrested without incident in their homes or places of employment Monday and Tuesday. They have all been placed in removal proceedings, and are being detained in the ICE El Paso Processing Center where they will remain until an immigration judge rules whether they are eligible to remain in the country.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.